

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00508 120856Z

10  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W  
----- 098344

R 101320Z MAY 75  
FM USINT BAGHDAD  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1974  
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

S E C R E T BAGHDAD 508

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PFOR, IR, IZ  
SUBJECT: IRAN-IRAQ RELATIONS

REF: TEHRAN 3538

1. USINT WISHES TO MAKE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON CONCERN EXPRESSED  
IN REFTEL ABOUT COMMUNICSTS OBTAINING CONTROL OF KURDISH  
MOVEMENT IN IRAQ UNDER NEW AUTONOMY INSTITUTIONS.

2. MOST ESSENTIAL FACT IS THAT BAATH PARTY CONSIDERS ICP ITS  
MOST DANGEROUS INTERNAL ENEMY. UCH BLOOD HAS BEEN SPILLED  
BETWEEN THEM DURING THE PAST 18 YEARS AND ACTIVITIES OF ICP  
ARE CLOSELY CIRCUMSCRIBED BY REGIME. ALLIANCE WITH ICP IN NATIONAL  
FRONT SINCE JULY 1974 WAS TACTICAL MOVE BY BAATH TO ASSURE THAT  
ICP DID NOT ALLY THEMSELVES WITH KURDS. WHILE THERE ARE THREE  
COMMUNIST MINISTERS, TWO OF THEM ARE WITHOUT PORTFOLIO AND THE  
THIRD, MINISTER OF IRRIGATION TALABANI, HAS AN UNDER SECRETARY,  
AFIF AL-RAWI, WHO IS A HIGH BAATH OFFICIAL. MOST OBSERVERS  
BELIEVE THAT WITH THE END OF THE KURDISH WAR AND DIMINISHED  
ROLE OF THE USSR, THE ICP IS IN FOR SOME ROUGH DAYS AHEAD.

3. SECONDLY, REGIME CAN BE EXPECTED TO TIGHTLY CONTROL  
"AUTONOMOUS" KURDISTAN WITH TRUSTED BAATHIS IN ALL KEY POSITIONS  
IN ORDER TO PREVENT ANY POSSIBLE RESURGENCE OF KURDISH SEPARATISM.

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THE LAST THING REGIME WOULD LET HAPPEN IS FOR COMMUNISTS TO GAIN

A NEW BASE THERE.

4. IF ABOVE IS CORRECT, IRAQ SHOULD BE ABLE TO ASSUAGE SHAH'S  
CONCERN. IN FACT, IRAQI REGIME NEEDS NO OUTSIDE URGING TO  
EXCLUDE COMMUNISTS FROM HAVING ROLE IN KURDISTAN.  
LOWRIE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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